UNITED
NATIONS

CAT

Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Distr.
GENERAL

CAT/C/SR.390/Add.1
15 November 1999

ENGLISH
Original: FRENCH

COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE

Twenty-second session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SECOND PART (PUBLIC)* OF THE 390th MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Friday, 14 May 1999, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. BURNS

CONTENTS

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS ACTIVITIES

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

* The summary record of the first part (closed) of the meeting appears as document CAT/C/SR.390.

This record is subject to correction.

Corrections should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent within one week of the date of this document to the Official Records Editing Section, room E.4108, Palais des Nations, Geneva.

Any corrections to the records of the public meetings of the Committee at this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum, to be issued shortly after the end of the session.

GE.99-41961 (E)

The second part (public) of the meeting was called to order at 10.40 a.m.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS ACTIVITIES (agenda item 10) (CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1 and Add.1-8)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt its annual report.

Chapter I: Organizational and other matters (CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1)

2. Mr. BRUNI (Secretary of the Committee) said that, with Bolivia's accession to the Convention, the number of States parties had now reached 114 and that paragraph 1 had to be amended accordingly. In paragraph 9, in the list of Vice-Chairmen, the words "until 20 November 1998" should be added after the name of Mr. Bostjan Zupančič, which should be followed by the words "Mr. Yu Mengjia, since 26 April 1999".

3. Mr. GONZÁLEZ POBLETE said that mention should be made of the fact that the number of States which had ratified the Convention had increased compared with the previous year, if only in a footnote.

4. Document CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter II: Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-first session (CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.1)

5. Document CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.1 was adopted.

Chapter III: Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention (CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.2)

6. Mr. SØRENSEN (Rapporteur) said that, in paragraph 2, China should be included in the list of countries from which the Secretariat had received reports.

7. Mr. EL MASRY asked whether there was any further point in sending reminders to States parties such as Somalia and Afghanistan. As the Committee had realized in considering a communication submitted by a Somalian, Somalia no longer had a proper government. The Afghan Government controlled only 10 per cent of the territory and its report was therefore not representative of the situation in the country.

8. Mr. MAVROMMATIS recalled that, during the crisis in Lebanon, the Committee had decided to stop sending reminders until tensions had subsided. He suggested that the Committee should draw on that precedent in the case of the two States parties mentioned.

9. Mr. BRUNI (Secretary of the Committee) said that a decision to stop sending reminders was the responsibility of the Office of Legal Affairs in New York. Somalia was one of the countries named in instructions which had been issued to that effect.

10. Mr. MAVROMMATIS, supported by the CHAIRMAN, said that the matter should be taken up in discussions specifically relating to the problem of the reports for which the Committee was still waiting.

11. Mr. BRUNI (Secretary of the Committee), replying to a request for clarification from Mr. EL MASRY, said that the Committee's practice was to send the first reminder once a report was over a year late and then other reminders every six to eight months.

12. Document CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.2, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter IV: Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention (CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.3)

13. Mr. SØRENSEN read out the new version of paragraph 77 in English.

14. Document CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.3, as amended, was adopted.

Chapter IV: Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention (CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.4/Parts I and II)

15. Document CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.4/Parts I and II was adopted with minor editorial changes.

Chapter V: Activities of the Committee under article 20 of the Convention (CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.5)

16. Mr. SØRENSEN (Rapporteur) asked the Secretariat to include a reference to the number of meetings spent on the present agenda item at the current session.

17. Document CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.5 was adopted.

Chapter VI: Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention (CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.6/Parts I and II)

18. Mr. SØRENSEN (Rapporteur) said that the full text of all the Committee's decisions on communications was annexed to the annual report.

19. Document CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.6/Part I was adopted.

20. Mr. SØRENSEN (Rapporteur) read out the new paragraph 8 of Part II in English.

21. Document CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.6/Part II, as amended, was adopted.

Chapters VII and VIII: Future meetings of the Committee and adoption of the annual report of the Committee (CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.7)

22. Document CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.7 was adopted.

Annexes (CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.8

23. Document CAT/C/XXII/CRP.1/Add.8 was adopted.

The meeting was suspended at 11.05 a.m. and resumed at 11.25 a.m.

24. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft annual report as a whole.

25. It was so decided.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

26. After the customary exchange of courtesies, the CHAIRMAN declared the Committee's session closed.

The meeting rose at 11.30 a.m.